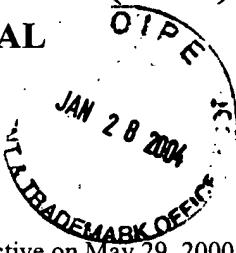


Maye 2837

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995



Application Number	09/985,856
Confirmation Number	4383
Filing Date	November 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hidegori MUKAIDA
Group Art Unit	2837
Examiner Name	Shih Y. Hsieh
Matter Number	Q67030
Title	ENGINE MUFFLER

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. SUBMISSION REQUIRED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted
i. Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on November 26, 2003
ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed
i. Amendment/Reply
ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
iii. Information Disclosure Statements (IDS)
iv. Petition for Extension of Time
v. Other _____

2. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of 3 Months
b. Other _____

3. FEES

Checks for the RCE statutory fee of \$385.00 and for the Petition fee of \$130.00 are attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Direct all correspondence to the address for SUGHRUE MION, PLLC filed under the Customer Number listed below:

01/29/2004 CNGUYEN 00000093 09985856

WASHINGTON OFFICE

01 FC:2001

385.00 OP

23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

Name John M. Bird Registration No. 46,027

Signature Pete Arkane Reg No 38,551 Date January 28, 2004
for John Bird